

**CITY OF SEATTLE
ORGANICS PROCESSING
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

Addendum 2

April 30, 2012



Chapter II - Base Services

This Chapter describes specific *Base Service* conditions for organics processing. These conditions represent a uniform service to which all Proposers must respond in their Base Proposal. The RFP also welcomes additional Proposals that lay out alternatives to the Base Service conditions (see **Chapter III - Alternative Proposals**).

The Base Services are described below. **Appendix B – Organics Processing Contract** contains definitions for terms and the contract details of processing.

A. Contract Processing

Proposers are required to submit Proposals for processing one or more of the following three options:

1. Processing 90-100% of the City's annual organic material
2. Processing 40 – 60% of the City's annual organic material
3. Processing 5-10% of the City's annual organic material

B. Materials for Processing

The Processor will receive for processing

- Yard debris (leaves, weeds and plants, grass clippings, prunings 4 inches or less in diameter, sod)
- All food scraps (pre-consumer and post-consumer, including meat, fish, dairy and produce)
- Food soiled paper (including soiled paper plates, cardboard, towels and napkins)
- Unpainted, untreated, and non-laminated wood deposited in transfer station yard debris trailers
- Waxed cardboard
- City-approved compostable bags
- City-approved compostable single-use food service ware (such as hot and cold beverage cups, soup and salad bowls, clamshells and other take-out containers, utensils, and other items)

City-approved compostable bags and food service packaging products will mean products that meet ASTM D6400 and D6868 or successor standards, whichever is applicable, and have been tested and found to be compostable by the City's current or future compost processor. The future processor will need to have a process capable of composting City-approved compostable bags and City-approved single-use compostable food service packaging. The Processor will maintain a transparent and expeditious testing program based on the proposed processing technology to verify the compostability of single-use food service ware and packaging at the request of the City, manufacturers or distributors.

The City plans to initiate a new City logo program for use on City-approved compostable single-use food service ware in conjunction with the new Organics Processing Contract(s). The City would develop,

license and promote an easily identifiable logo for use on relevant products to educate customers on proper disposal.

It should be noted that by ordinance, restaurants in Seattle providing single-use food service ware or packaging of any kind for consumption on or off premises must supply either compostable or recyclable products. Residents will be allowed to put approved compostable single-use food service ware and packaging such as take-out containers in their organics carts. A list of the currently approved compostable bags and food service packaging products can be found on the current City processor's website (www.cedar-grove.com).

Unacceptable materials for Organics Collection:

- Plastic bags
- Plastic-coated products such as cups and plates
- Waxed milk cartons
- Aseptic cartons
- MSW non-organic recyclables
- Styrofoam containers and packaging
- Large amounts of soil
- Kitty litter and pet waste
- Diapers

These and other non-organic materials will be handled as contaminants.

Pet Waste and Compostable Diapers

The City's Comprehensive Solid Waste Plan identifies the future recovery of pet waste and compostable diapers for processing. The addition of these items to the processing contract could be negotiated with the future processor(s). In 2010, these items comprised 18% or 20,000 tons of material disposed in the residential sector

C. Transfer Operations

The base specifications assume the City's contracted route collection trucks and self-haul customers will continue to tip at facilities located in Seattle, either the City stations, the current contracted station, or at a Proposer's facility in Seattle.

The base specifications assume the City and its transfer contractor will load organic material into walking floor trailers owned by the City or its transfer contractor or load into Proposer owned rail containers. The trailers will be hauled to a receiving facility within 50 miles of either the City's South transfer station, located at 8105 5th Avenue South in Seattle, or the City's North transfer station, located at 1350 North 34th Street in Seattle. Proposers with a processing facility greater than 50 miles from one of the South-City's transfer stations will provide an intermediate receiving facility within 50 miles and long-haul transportation from their receiving facility to their processing facility and include that these long-haul costs in their total proposed base prices.